

**Hilltop United Methodist Church
Administrative Council Meeting Minutes
Thursday, March 16, 2017, 7:30 pm**

Present: Kelly McCuaig, Shannon McCuaig, Allison Bass, Stacy Vanderwerf, Paulette Adams, Paulette Booker, Kerry Rausch, Michelle Behsman, Bob Berg, Don Putzier, Wayne Baumgartner, Karin Gavin, and Holly Aasen.

Approval of Minutes: Kerry Rausch made a motion to approve the February 16, 2017 minutes as presented and Karin Gavin seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Allison Bass opened the meeting with prayer and noted the “reminders” that we are mid-sized church, we need to act our size, we need to be outward focused and disciple focused, and we need to “Take care of the rising generation”.

Pastor Comments: Pastor Kelly reminded the council that the reason for switching meeting times was to allow visioning to be the main purpose of the administrative council. Kelly shared that Cindy Gregorson, Director of Connectional Ministries at the MN Annual Conference, recommended that a church administrative council meeting spend 1/3 of their meeting time on faith formation, 1/3 on strategic visioning, and 1/3 on old/new business.

Faith Formation: Pastor Kelly then proceeded with the faith formation component of the meeting and read from chapter 2 of *Revival Rising*, closing with the prayer on page 20 (*Lord Jesus Christ, revive me! Release an inner surge of your Spirit. Excite my heart with your presence. Inspire me to keep seeking revival.*) Kelly encouraged the council members to spend silent time with God and to pray this prayer daily in the coming month. He shared that he posted the prayer from the previous month on his phone where he would see it daily.

Visioning: The council then spent a brief time in small groups focusing on Hilltop’s children’s’ ministry, specifically which aspect(s) had room for improvement and what visions/dreams we have for the future of our children’s’ ministry. Each group then added their top 3 to a master list.

Committee Reports:

Upward (Worship): Paulette Booker reported that the team spent time visioning about children’s’ ministry.

Inward (Nominations): No report

Outward (Missions): Shannon McCuaig reported that the team discussed investing in a missionary family. They considered what it looks like to be a missionary in order to help them narrow their mission focus. She also reported that they were looking for another member to add to the Outward team.

Trustees: Bob Berg reported that a proposal had been made by the MN Annual Conference to utilize Hilltop UMC as a training/workshop location. The Tech team and Trustees will be reviewing the proposal and discussing benefits and drawbacks.

Finance: Kerry Rausch reported the February 2017 ending checkbook balance was \$61,194.16, \$22,728.03 of which was designated funds leaving a \$38,466.13 working general fund balance. Total income for February was \$25,456.86 with \$20,497.29 in giving to the general fund. There was additional

designated giving of about \$5,000.00. Expenses for February were \$19,287.52.

Staff/Pastor Parish Relations: Kelly shared that SPRC has hired Ashley Swoboda as the youth/campus minister, which was announced the previous Sunday.

Technology: Don Putzier reported that fundraising efforts for the technology upgrades were in progress. Also, he is expecting a bid from Sim Sound for the audio upgrade.

New Business: None

Adjournment/Next Meeting: Allison Bass closed with a video and prayer. The takeaway from the video was that God is not an addition. We shouldn't have to find space in our schedule and in our hearts for God. It's no wonder that we don't have the answers when we only turn to the bible once a week. If we are not seeking God, how can we find him? Jesus gave us everything – he makes us a new creation. We cannot spend time with him and be filled with his spirit and not be changed. The next Council meeting will be held on Thursday, April 20, 2017 at 6:30 pm with committee meetings to follow at 8:00 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Michelle Behsman